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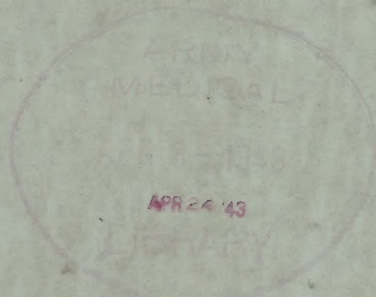
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CONFERENCE ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION



REPORT OF THE GENERAL FINDINGS COMMITTEE  
AND  
REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SIX GROUP MEETINGS  
ON NOVEMBER TENTH

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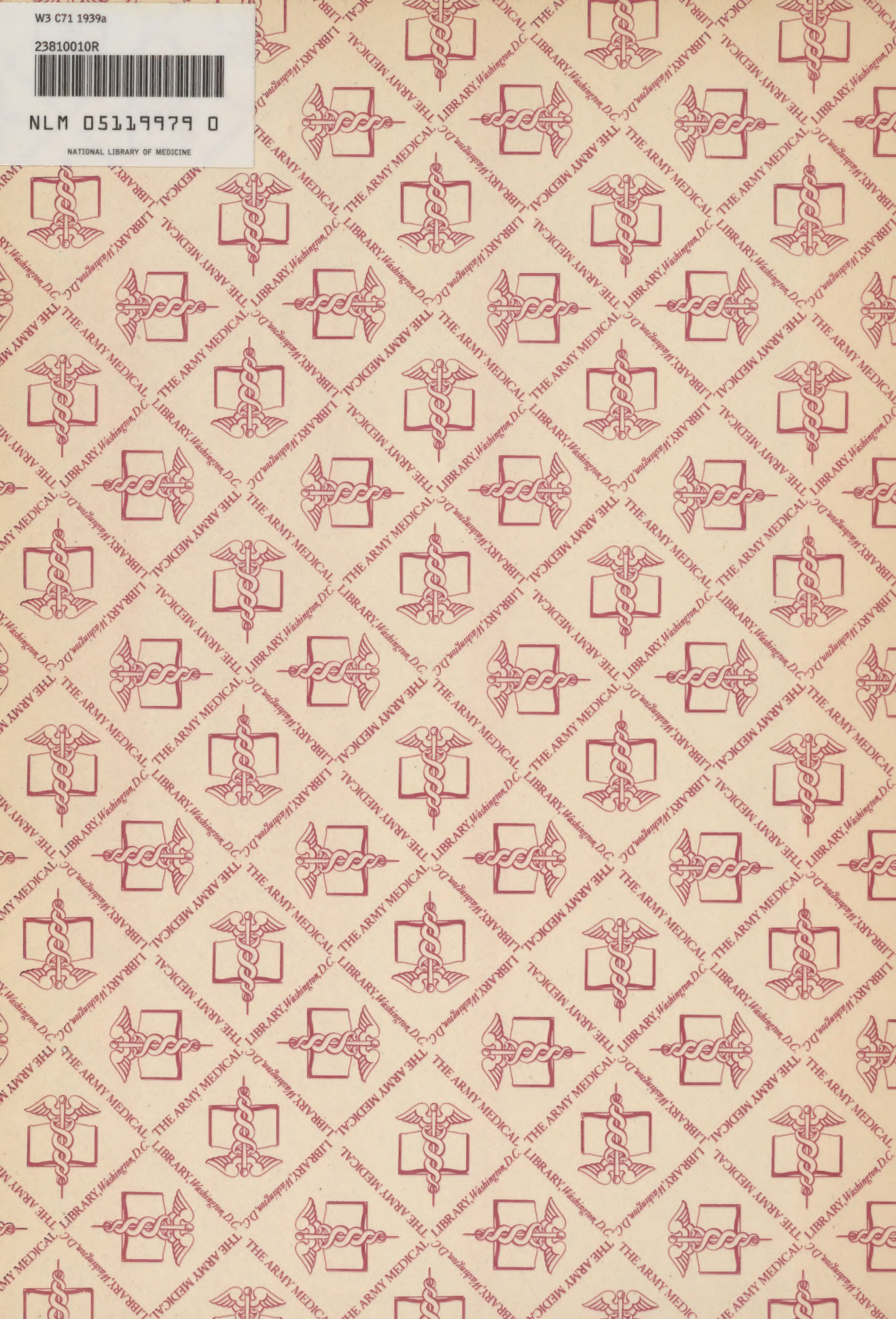
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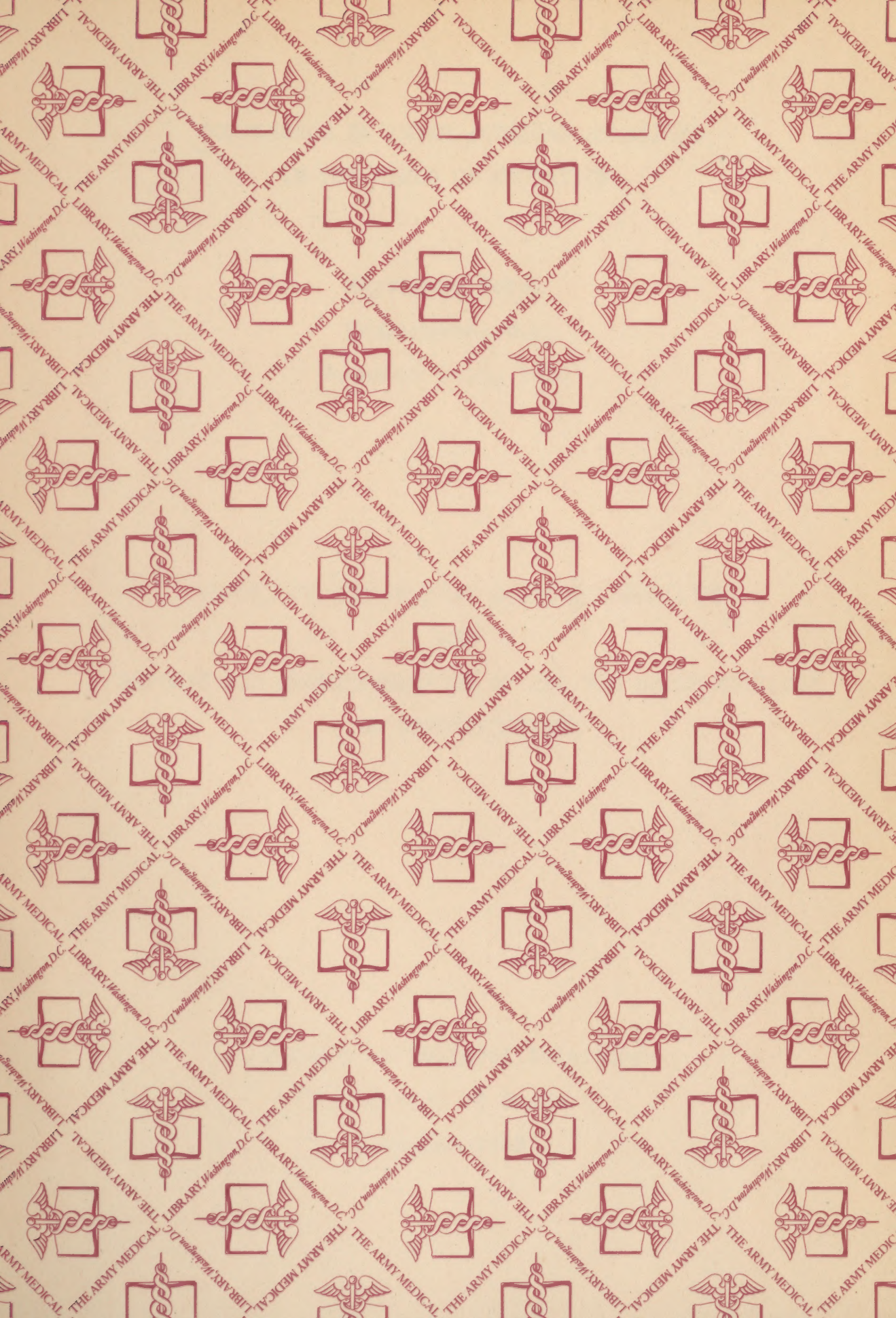


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CONFERENCE ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS  
...  
IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Mayflower Hotel  
Washington, D.C.  
November 9-10, 1939

REPORT OF THE GENERAL FINDINGS COMMITTEE  
AND  
REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SIX GROUP MEETINGS  
ON NOVEMBER TENTH

Division of Cultural Relations  
Department of State  
November 1939

CONTINUITY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Washington, D.C.

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REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AND

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SIX GROUPS OF STUDENTS

ON NOVEMBER TWENTY

Division of Cultural Relations

Department of State

November 1939



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## INTRODUCTION

On November 9 and 10, 1939 approximately six hundred educators representing all sections of the United States met in Washington under the auspices of the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State to explore the possibilities of increasing the interchange of educational interests among the people of the American republics. The conference met as a whole on November 9 and on the second day, November 10, divided into six groups. Although it was an unofficial and informal gathering, a number of recommendations were presented by the six group meetings. These recommendations and the reports accompanying them were not, therefore, acted upon by the conference as a whole. They will be submitted to the Temporary Continuation Committee authorized by the conference for whatever action may appear appropriate to the committee.

This pamphlet contains the report of the General Findings Committee appointed to summarize the sense of the conference as a whole, as well as the reports of the six group meetings.





Tribute paid to the memory of the late  
Dean F. K. Richtmyer of Cornell University  
by the Conference on Inter-American Relations in the  
Field of Education, on November 9, 1939

(Resolution presented by a special  
committee under the chairmanship  
of Dr. Stephen P. Duggan,  
Director of the Institute  
of International Education,  
and adopted unanimously by  
a rising vote of the Conference)

Scholarship has lost one of its eminent advocates. He was one of the leading physicists of the United States, and was recognized as an international authority in the domain of English. In extending the use of X-ray in medicine, for his conspicuous contribution in this field he was awarded the Levy Medal by the Franklin Institute in 1929.

Dean Richtmyer was a member of the faculty of Cornell University since 1904, and Dean of the Graduate School since 1931. He was one of America's eminent scientists whose scholarly achievements and wide interests have contributed much to the growth of the research capacity of our country in its broad educational aspects. He was a member of the principal scientific organizations in his field of science and has been honored by the presidency of several of them. In recognition also of his outstanding position he was elected to be a member of the National Academy of Science; the American Philosophical Association; and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The conference on education, called by the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State, in whose discussion he was to have taken a prominent part, wishes to place upon its record an expression of the deep sense of loss that it feels in the passing of Dean Richtmyer.





RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINDINGS COMMITTEE OF THE  
CONFERENCE ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Adopted Unanimously at the Plenary Session  
on the afternoon of November 10, 1939

The Findings Committee of the Conference on Inter-American Relations in the Field of Education met during the luncheon hour on November 10, 1939, and after mature consideration made the following recommendations to the Plenary Session of the Conference:

1. That the Conference express its gratitude to the National Committee of the United States of America on International Intellectual Cooperation for the report which it has provided, entitled A Preliminary Survey of Inter-American Cultural Activities in the United States.

2. That the members of this Conference bring to the attention of their colleagues and associates the meeting of the Eighth Pan American Scientific Congress to be held in Washington in May 1940.

3. That a Temporary Continuation Committee be chosen to prepare a digest of the record of the Conference and send a copy at an early date to each of those present at the Conference and to other interested persons; the members of this Committee to be chosen by the Chairman of the Findings Committee and the Chief of the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State.

4. That the Temporary Continuation Committee give careful consideration to the recommendations and resolutions of the six discussion groups and refer such of them as call for further action to appropriate organizations represented at this Conference.

5. That the entire membership of the Conference express its appreciation and gratitude to the Department of State for calling this conference.

6. That an expression of appreciation be extended to Mr. Archer M. Huntington for his generosity and vision in making possible the Hispanic Foundation in the Library of Congress.

JOHN F. O'HARA  
Rapporteur

Members of the Findings Committee:

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Clarence H. Haring, Chairman |                   |
| Dr. George F. Zook               | Dr. George Works  |
| Reverend John F. O'Hara          | Mr. Evan E. Young |
| Dr. Bernice B. Cronkhite         | Dr. Lee E. Sutton |
| Dr. Charles S. Johnson           |                   |





MEMBERS OF THE TEMPORARY CONTINUATION COMMITTEE  
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Harold Benjamin, Professor of Education, University of Maryland.

Right Reverend Joseph Corrigan, Rector of Catholic University, Institutional President of the Association of American Universities.

Dr. Bernice B. Cronkhite, Dean, Radcliffe College.

Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Director, Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. William D. Cutter, Secretary, Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, American Medical Association.

Dr. F. D. Farrell, President, Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science; President, Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Edgar J. Fisher, Assistant Director, Institute of International Education.

Mr. Ernesto Galarza, Assistant, Division of Intellectual Cooperation, Pan American Union.

Dr. Willard E. Givens, Executive Secretary, National Education Association.

Miss Meta Glass, President, Sweet Briar College; President, Association of American Colleges.

Dr. Clarence H. Haring, Chairman, Committee on Latin American Studies of American Council of Learned Societies.

Dr. Rowland Haynes, President, University of Omaha; President, Association of Urban Universities.

Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Professor of Sociology, Fisk University.

Dr. Isaac A. Kandel, Professor of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University.

Dr. Fred J. Kelly





Dr. Fred J. Kelly, Chief, Division of Higher Education,  
United States Office of Education.

Reverend John F. O'Hara, President, Notre Dame University.

Dr. John W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of  
Education.

Dr. Lee E. Sutton, Dean, Medical College of Virginia.

Dr. John J. Tigert, President, University of Florida;  
President, National Association of State Universities.

Dr. George Works, Dean of Students, University of Chicago.

Mr. Evan E. Young, Pan American Airways.

Dr. George F. Zook, President, American Council on  
Education.





## GROUP I

**Purpose:** To afford executive authorities of educational institutions opportunity to discuss ways and means of stimulating greater exchange of students, teachers, and professors, of financing such exchanges, and similar problems.

**Chairman:** Dr. Fred J. Kelly

**Rapporteurs:** Mr. G. Lawrence Maxwell  
Dr. Lloyd E. Blauch

### Report

The group considered, first, the question of policy regarding the types of students, teachers and professors both in the United States and in the other American republics who should be encouraged to seek fellowships and scholarships; second, the problem of support for such exchanges; third, the problem of selection of students, teachers and professors both in this country and in the other American republics; fourth, academic credentials; and fifth, the motivation of students in the United States to study Latin American culture.

Types: It was felt by the group that the personality of the student, teacher or professor was a significant factor. Only those best adapted to orient themselves to the differences of environment should be considered.

Support: Among those contributing support to the creation of fellowships and scholarships, it was brought out in the group discussion that colleges and universities are increasing tuition scholarships. Businessmen, educational organizations and foundations, it was found, are also making increasing contributions to the establishment of exchange arrangements. It was the general consensus that foundations would probably make greater contributions in the future than they are now doing. Any student, teacher or professor sent to or received from Latin America should be afforded ample time to pursue the type of work selected and should travel as extensively as possible in order to become better acquainted with the cultural attainments of the country visited. In order to do this sufficient stipends should be given.

Selection:





Selection: Only graduate students and those with definite objectives in view should be selected for fellowships. The determination of effective methods of appraising the applicant's ability, the group found, was an extremely difficult problem to solve. In the selection of teachers only our ablest scholars should be considered. In the selection of professors, the organizational differences between colleges and universities in the United States and Latin America should be a determining factor in setting standards of selection. The visiting professor should give informal lectures on the campus and in the community in which the institution to which he is assigned is located. North American professors of education could make an effective contribution in South American countries. Any student, teacher or professor selected should have a well-grounded knowledge of the language of the country to which he is sent.

Accrediting: The problem of recognition of credits between the institutions of the American republics, the group found, was a question deserving of the most exacting study. The problem has not as yet been solved.

Motivation of students in the United States to study Latin American culture: This, the group felt, was a matter which would require years of painstaking effort. The first step was to make the study of Spanish and Portuguese attractive to the student. To accomplish this end, materials on great personalities and events in Latin America should be translated or rewritten in English in a manner to capture the imagination of the student in this country. The creation of Departments of Latin American Affairs in institutions in this country should be encouraged. Professors of Latin American literature, history, et cetera, should be encouraged to visit Latin America in order that they might humanize their subjects through first-hand impressions.

### Recommendations

As a result of these discussions, Group I submitted to the Conference the following recommendations:

1. In order that citizens of Latin America may be adequately informed of the advantages which universities, colleges and schools in the United States offer to Latin American youth of both sexes, it is recommended that descriptive and fully informative literature, in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, be distributed in the Latin American countries. This information would be made

available





available to American embassies, legations and consulates, to graduates of American institutions resident in Latin America, and to others interested. The material should include essential data regarding fees and living expenses in various parts of the United States, including transportation costs and particularly such reductions in fares as American steamship companies offer to students and teachers.

2. It is recommended that a committee be appointed by the Institute of International Education to canvass possible donors with a view to increasing the number of fellowships and scholarships available for inter-American exchanges.

It is further recommended that the said committee study the problem of the cost of travel between the United States and Latin American countries to see if the cost of travel can be reduced, especially for students and teachers.

3. It is recommended that the United States Government add educational attachés to its diplomatic staffs. Every ambassador and minister has on his staff today military, naval and commercial attachés, whose business it is to keep in touch with the latest developments in their fields in the countries where they are located. Certainly it is equally important for each nation to keep in touch with what is going on in the development of intellectual leadership and effective citizenship elsewhere.

G. LAWRENCE MAXWELL

Rapporteur



## GROUP II

Purpose: To discuss and compare programs for academic and public education in inter-American affairs: courses, summer schools, proposed institutes, and projects for conferences in university centers.

Chairman: Dr. Harold Benjamin

Rapporteurs: Dr. Chester Lloyd Jones  
Dr. Harley A. Notter

### Report

The discussion held by Group II developed in the direction of rather wide agreement upon several matters. It was brought out that programs of academic education in inter-American affairs should make provision for the inclusion of courses in Latin American history in United States secondary and elementary schools to a far wider extent than now obtains, and many believed that in the advanced instruction provision might profitably be made for broad studies dealing with social and anthropological as well as economic, geographical and political factors. Discussion upon these points raised the matter of survey or general courses on the history of the Americas, either two-year more detailed courses, or one-year courses emphasizing syntheses, unities, trends and broad aspects.

The existing need for more history texts in the Latin American field was noted, and the desirability of utilizing the now rapidly developing and multiplying visual aids of motion pictures, et cetera, was felt to be very important. The usefulness of making an effort in United States history courses to bring out historical relations with Latin American cultural, economic and political developments was pointed out. The great value of public conferences, courses for adults, and similar enterprises to stimulate popular understanding and interest was a matter of favorable comment.

There was in general a recognition in the discussion that the public, both adults and students, were increasingly interested in Latin America. The public, however, has available too few books and pictures on Latin American





life to be adequately informed and satisfied. The same condition exists in Latin America to a considerable degree, even among the intelligentsia. Hence, in the discussion there was some thought given to sending United States books in Spanish translation to Latin America, supplemented by radio and by motion pictures of American life--pictures which more accurately reflect and typify our life than many of those now being shown in Latin America. The social and cultural side of our life needs emphasis throughout in this endeavor.

In regard to supplying United States citizens with books, translated from the Spanish, which is a great source of informed appreciation, the discussion brought out that the American public is rather an apathetic market, but that the publishers of translated Latin American classics and histories are willing to try further to see whether our public will not develop a real interest.

The greatest amount of discussion took place on the need of teaching Spanish, and also Portuguese where possible, in our own secondary and elementary schools. To make the exchange of ideas and ideals possible on a fully sympathetic plane, we need to learn the language of Latin America, and the Latin Americans need to learn ours. It was desired, with a vote which approached unanimity, that the recommendatory resolution given below be included in this report.

As to courses, facilities and programs dealing with Latin America in the field of economics and allied fields in higher institutions of learning in the United States, the discussions brought out the limitations of materials dealing with Latin American economics and allied subjects which are suitable for use as text books, and emphasized the importance of making available to colleges and universities lists of the more specialized secondary discussions which may be used as the background for college courses.

Other aids for economic studies were mentioned, including assistance from the recently established Hispanic Foundation, the Handbook of Latin American Studies, the Hispanic American Historical Review, the Quarterly Review of Inter-American Relations, the statistical publications of the Pan American Union, and the bibliographical card service of the Library of Congress. The opinion was expressed that further clearing house service in the field was needed.





The desirability of study of recent economic developments in Latin America was stressed, since these have greatly modified the position of Latin America in the life of the world.

As to programs of instruction in Latin American subjects in colleges and universities of the United States, it was the sense of the meeting that a Latin American interdepartmental major be recommended for possible establishment in the institutions of higher learning in the United States. The primary object of such a program should be cultural though specialized courses may well be established for the smaller number of students who may be encouraged to look to careers in Latin America and for those Latin American students who come to the United States for professional studies.

With regard to seminars and travel projects, it was the sense of the meeting that informal seminars and travel may serve as an effective means of promoting better understanding among the American peoples through the personal contacts thus afforded.

With regard to summer schools in Latin America, it was agreed that they are constructive instruments (1) to promote better understanding of Latin American cultures by students from the United States, and (2) to foster appreciation by Latin Americans of the culture of this country.

It was suggested that the colleges and universities of the United States be asked to study the advisability of offering to students from Latin American countries programs of undergraduate instruction which may allow them to complete the four-year course in three years. The opinion was expressed, however, that students be encouraged to spend four years in the United States, if possible, so that they may obtain a fuller knowledge of the life and culture of this country.

It was agreed that American institutions of learning be asked to consider the advantages which may be obtained by students from the United States who secure a portion of their education in Latin American countries.

It was the consensus of opinion that for the guidance of United States students going into Latin American countries, the establishment of centers of study similar to the Centro de Estudios Históricos in Madrid or the Instituto Cultural of Argentina is desirable.



Recommendation

Whereas one of the best keys for the true understanding of a people's culture is a thorough knowledge of its language and literature; and

Whereas the various members of the Department of State, and especially the Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles, have publicly voiced the desirability of a wider diffusion of the knowledge of the Spanish and Portuguese languages in the United States;

Be it resolved that Group II of this Conference on Inter-American Relations in the Field of Education endorse the proposition that the study of the Spanish and Portuguese languages needs to be increased in the schools and colleges of the United States, and to this end asks the United States Commissioner of Education, through his office, to bring to the attention of the Commissioners of Education or other authorities responsible for the conduct of education in the various states of the Union, the desirability of a greatly increased program for the teaching of the Spanish and Portuguese languages and to ask these respective authorities to submit to him concrete suggestions (1) for the manner in which an increase in these disciplines can be effected within their present organizations, and (2) for provisions for the beginning of the study of modern foreign languages on the level of the elementary school.

HAROLD BENJAMIN

Chairman





### GROUP III

Purpose: To discuss problems involving the adjustment of students from abroad to their new environment and to formulate plans for more effective guidance and hospitality.

Chairman: Dr. Edgar J. Fisher

Rapporteurs: Mr. Charles D. Hurrey  
Miss Gladys Bryson

#### Report

We are in complete accord with the Department of State on the program of encouraging contacts of all useful kinds between the United States of America and the Latin American countries. But we realize that more harm than good may result from teacher and student exchanges unless the candidates are carefully chosen and carefully received upon their arrival in the country concerned. On this account, it is important that exchanges should not be increased too rapidly and that they should not be associated with the present abnormal situation created by the European war. This applies equally well to North American teachers and students going abroad.

Turning to the problem of students coming to the United States, we all agree that more attention should be given to the student before he leaves his native land. This should include items such as introductions to United States citizens and returned students abroad qualified to render assistance, distribution of guide books and academic catalogues, and the opportunity to see moving pictures descriptive of American student life.

We further agree that it is important that provision be made to meet the students upon their arrival, both in this country and on the college and university campus.

Without seeming to set off the foreign students as a separate group, but with the realization that they should be integrated normally as soon as possible with the student body, we believe that the period of transition to the new academic and community environment





calls for special counseling, including a special adviser, with faculty and student committees.

Experience proves the value of facilitating the attendance of foreign students at student conferences, and all possible encouragement should be given to assist them to this end.

### Recommendations

It is recommended that the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State appoint a continuation committee in consultation with the Departments of State and Labor and the Office of Education, to study the question of selecting and implementing a private agency or agencies qualified:

1. To advise Latin American and other foreign students before departure to the United States upon arrival at a port of entry and upon taking up their residence and study at the educational institutions of their choice;
2. to consult with the officers of the Department of State and Immigration and Naturalization Service regarding questions and problems pertaining to visas and their extension, adequate working knowledge of English and financial competence;
3. to act as a clearing house for educational and other institutions in the United States desiring to give or to receive advice and assistance concerning Latin American and other foreign students;
4. to make a survey of the Latin American and other foreign students in the United States;
5. to make a survey of the private agencies concerned with foreign students with a view to expansion of activities, wherever advantageous, and their adequate financing;
6. to prepare a roster of all persons responsible for the personal guidance and activities of the foreign students;
7. to consider the advisability of establishing an adequate Student Loan Fund, provision for group health and accident insurance, and kindred questions;



8. to send a copy of the report and findings of the Conference on Education to all colleges and universities in this country; and

9. to call another conference of those officially concerned with and responsible for the adjustment of the foreign student in the United States.

EDGAR J. FISHER  
Chairman





GROUP IV

Purpose: To afford editors of educational journals and publications of learned societies opportunity to explore the possibility of more effectively acquainting the United States with scholars and writers in the other American republics.

Chairman: Dr. Isaac L. Kandel

Rapporteur: Dr. Samuel Guy Inman

Report

The chairman in opening the meeting referred to his own experience during a year spent in some of the Latin American countries about fifteen years ago and a few years later in Mexico. The chief difficulties he encountered were to find the right people with whom to start his investigation and the lack of available research materials. On the side of the Latin Americans, there was the corresponding difficulty with reference to qualifications on North American culture. Since that time the interest in both parts of the continent in each other has been considerably increased through the exchange of students and professors. Referring to his own special field, education, he pointed out that there has been an increase in the number of publications and in research in current problems; that, on the whole, the tendency to look more to the United States for guidance is marked.

Mr. Samuel Guy Inman spoke on the subject of the availability of Latin American writers for North American publications. He mentioned as examples a number of outstanding Latin American writers who would be available for articles in publications of the United States. There are certain classes of these writers: In the first place, those living in the United States, professors of Spanish and Portuguese, and other Latin Americans occupying various positions in this country; graduates of North American institutions now living in Latin America, prominent Latin American authors, editors, and authorities in special fields; and refugee scholars from Europe now occupying positions in Latin American universities, who are opening up new fields of research.

With regard to the availability of Latin American writers who would cooperate, it was pointed out that one





of the main difficulties was encountered in securing the right contacts. Dr. Cross of the Yale Review spoke of his experience of having invited people to write and receiving no reply.

Proposals were made to publish in Spanish, either in United States or Latin American centers, reviews like Yale Review and Readers Digest, (although there are such digests now published in Latin America). It was reported that the Journal of International Law was published in Spanish for a while with unsatisfactory results.

In this connection, the work of the Inter-American Bibliographical Association was announced. Names of authors can be secured from such bibliographies.

Arising out of discussion of securing writers, the question of the exchange of publications was presented. Where can good journals published in the United States be placed? Is there a list of serious publications available? The point was made that relatively unknown journals in a special field may be of great value to the research worker.

The question whether these writers and periodicals should be evaluated was raised. It was clear that this was a question that could not be decided or undertaken by an official organization, but it was the sense of the meeting that classified lists be prepared and made available by such organizations as may be established.

The discussion indicated that the question of exchanges is twofold: one of interest to the general reader, and the other to the specialist; that the general reader needs more guidance than the specialist.

The discussion turned to the question of the cost of exchanges. It was noted that most publications are today having budget difficulties. It is necessary, therefore, that these journals make arrangements in their budgets for exchange with Latin American publications. The Duke University Press announced that it is now making reductions in subscriptions for Latin American readers in view of the difficulties of exchange.

Given the importance of securing a list of Latin American writers, the question was raised as to whether the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State might undertake to furnish a list of Latin American

writers



writers with the aid of a committee of persons in the United States who are familiar with Latin America. It was suggested that aid might be secured from the diplomatic representatives of the United States in Latin American fields.

The next question that was taken up was the problem of marketing books from North America in the Latin American countries. The booksellers in this country have been slow to accommodate their methods to the credit systems prevailing in Latin American countries. At the same time, a great deal of interest was shown in the exhibits of books held in Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro last summer.

The next question discussed concerned the opportunities available for increasing in the publications of the United States materials on the culture of Latin America; to what degree would North American publications open their pages to Latin American writers in different fields.

In connection with publishing reviews of Latin American publications, the difficulty of securing books from publishers and authors was mentioned by a number of speakers. Bibliographies frequently appear long after the publication of a book, and the Latin American books are frequently published from type in small editions which are soon exhausted. Furthermore, the question was raised whether it is desirable to review books that are not easily purchasable in this country.

In connection with the discussion of the exchange of publications, it was suggested that the Library of Congress secure copies of as wide a range as possible of Latin American books and disseminate information about them; also, that we urge more South American publishers to exhibit their books in this country. It was noted with pleasure that one such exhibit is now being displayed by the Committee on Cooperation with Latin America of the American Library Association.

An outstanding feature of the meeting was widespread expression of interest not only from the specialists in the field of Latin American culture, but in the general fields as well. It was clear that what is needed at the present time is the capitalizing of this interest through the creation of appropriate committees and the dissemination of definite information and lists of periodical publications and writers to the various groups that have shown interest. It is encouraging to note the new interest shown by Latin Americans in the cultural life of the United States.





### Recommendations

The following recommendations were adopted by the members of Group IV:

1. That a list of Latin American writers classified according to their fields of interest be made generally available.

2. That it is desirable to draw up a classified list of periodicals and publishers in the Latin American countries.

3. That the Department of State be requested to investigate the possibility of implementing the second convention agreed upon at Buenos Aires in 1933 concerning the interchange of publications between national libraries, which has already been ratified by the Senate but for which appropriations have not yet been made.

4. That the Department of State be requested to bring to the attention of publishers through appropriate channels the desirability of considering the whole problem of the sale of books including credit facilities.

5. That the attention of Latin American publishers be directed to the current interest in their publications and the desirability of having book exhibits from time to time in the United States.

6. That the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State be requested to refer for further study to the Conference on Publications and Libraries to be held on November 29 and 30, the question of making more available in the United States, both for sale and for review, books published in Latin America.

It was the desire of the meeting that the list of members attending and the recommendations be sent to the members present and others interested in this particular topic.

It is suggested that a Continuation Committee representing this Conference be appointed to cooperate in the near future with the Division of Cultural Relations of the Department of State in carrying out the findings of the Conference.

SAMUEL GUY INMAN  
Rapporteur





GROUP V

Purpose: Arranged for representatives of medical and allied fields to consider cooperative projects with the other American republics in the field of medical education and research.

Chairmen: Dr. Hugh S. Cumming  
Dr. William D. Cutter

Rapporteurs: Dr. Thomas T. Mackie  
Dr. Edward C. Ernst

Report

The discussion naturally dealt largely with those problems met by the participants in their own work in this country and could not presume to deal, except in a general way, with the problems encountered by the other American republics.

Problems: Several speakers stressed the difficulties created by the lack of a rather thorough knowledge of another language when attempting to study a technical subject in that language. Students from the other American republics who take their premedical work in United States schools, for example, are much better prepared from a language standpoint for study in a medical school. Another problem frequently met is that of financial difficulties, as shown, for instance, in differences in the relative value of the currency of the several countries. A third problem has to do with premedical education. Many students from the other American republics are, for instance, found to be lacking in the basic sciences and have to take some premedical work which they believe they have completed. This leads to the problem of the inadequate sources of information about prospective students from those countries; this can probably best be solved by having some dependable person on the ground examine students before they leave for the United States. A fifth problem is the barriers in the way of disseminating scientific journals published in the United States, in the other American republics. These journals include medical, nursing, public health, and dental publications as well as those dealing with the biological sciences. The difficulties encountered are both financial and editorial. The language barrier is



not great. A final important set of problems arises in connection with medical licensure. These arise (1) when an alien wishes to practice medicine in the United States (state laws on this subject are not uniform); and (2) when degrees granted by medical schools of the United States, especially to Latin American students who are returning to their homes to practice medicine, are not recognized by the local government.

Opportunities: That many opportunities in medical education are open was apparent from the discussion. These may be listed as follows:

1. Laboratory facilities in many fields are at present available for qualified workers.
2. Opportunities exist in medical education, principally on the graduate student level.
3. Opportunities are available in the United States in the fields of (a) nursing education, (b) hospital administration, and (c) dental education.
4. Ample opportunities are available for students from the other American republics for field experience in public health measures and public health administration through federal, state, and municipal public health bodies.
5. A limited number of internships are available in the United States for selected graduates of schools in the other American republics.
6. The field of tropical medicine offers a large reciprocal opportunity for the development of desirable teaching services.
7. A limited number of opportunities exist for research workers in institutions in the other American republics. Ample material is available for research.
8. Moving picture films for teaching purposes are available.

#### Recommendations

The following definite recommendations came out of the discussion:





1. That a study and analysis of medical education, medical schools, and research institutes in the American republics be undertaken.

2. That reciprocal exchanges of bibliofilm between medical libraries in the American republics be undertaken.

3. That reciprocal loan collections be exchanged between the Army Medical Museum and museums in the other American republics; i.e., microscopic slides.

4. That the Army Medical Library and Army Medical Museum train medical librarians and museum directors.

5. That information on medicine, nursing, public health, dentistry, and sanitary engineering be collected and exchanged through summaries of literature of the American republics.

6. That nursing education be expanded.

7. That public health education of general teachers in the other American republics would be helpful.

8. That there be created a Continuation Committee to (a) advise on the selection of medical students who apply for fellowships and professors who apply for professorships under the Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations, and (b) explore these and other recommendations; this committee to include representatives from the following fields:

Medicine  
Tropical medicine  
Dentistry  
Nursing

Public health  
Sanitary engineering  
Hospital administration  
Vital statistics

WILLIAM D. CUTTER  
Chairman





## GROUP VI

Purpose: To afford primary and secondary school administrators and teachers opportunity to discuss curriculum materials for Latin American studies and teacher exchanges.

Chairman: Mr. Ernesto Galarza

Rapporteurs: Miss Edith E. Pence  
Mr. Chester W. Holmes

### Report

After thorough discussion and with due regard to differences of opinion expressed by various members of the group, the following conclusions and recommendations are presented to the general assembly of the Conference:

1. The study of Latin American history and of various phases of Latin American civilization properly belongs in the courses of study of the elementary and secondary schools of the United States, materials and procedures to be adapted to the respective levels.

2. The teaching of United States history in the primary and secondary schools should be regarded as one phase of the broader concept of American history, in which the development of the other American nations should be given proper attention. School authorities should be encouraged to foster activities of a curricular and extra-curricular nature which will aid in bringing within the experience of school children a knowledge and understanding of all the American peoples. Likewise, the study of the languages spoken in Latin America--Spanish, Portuguese and French--should be encouraged and in conjunction with such language study there should be the study of Latin American civilization.

3. This group earnestly recommends that, as a part of the effort to enlist wider public support for the introduction and expansion of Latin American studies in the schools, the address delivered by Dr. Herbert E. Bolton be given the greatest possible circulation among school teachers, administrators and educational authorities.

Active



Active work should be carried on through educational journals, parent teacher's associations, administrative organizations, and state conventions of teachers to the end that Latin American studies in the schools be actively fostered. With regard to secondary school courses of study, it is recommended that efforts be made to obtain the recognition of elective courses on Latin America by secondary and college accrediting associations.

4. Preliminary discussion has shown that a number of individuals and in some cases school systems have been experimenting with Latin American studies in the elementary and secondary schools. With due acknowledgment of the foresight of these teachers and administrators, it is recommended that a survey be made of the courses, projects, units, assembly programs, and other activities relating to Latin America which have been carried out. This survey should aim at a critical analysis of the experience thus gained in order to place it at the disposal of teachers and administrators who may be interested in Latin American activities. Moreover, there ought to be a continuing effort, carried on through a central agency, to coordinate all such activities anywhere in the United States. The information thus collected should be regularly disseminated or held at the disposal of teachers and should include experience in the teaching of the languages of Latin America mentioned above.

5. Group VI calls attention to the valuable service which the Pan American Union has been rendering in the past in the distribution of materials useful in the study of Latin America in the elementary and secondary schools. It also wishes to refer to the services which the Institute of Pacific Relations is ready to render in this respect. It particularly wishes to stress the importance of making as soon as possible a comprehensive study of the classroom materials and study aids available in this field. A committee of competent persons should be appointed to carry out this study and to make recommendations for the preparation of additional materials such as maps, motion pictures, text books, reading lists, biographies, translations, anthologies, et cetera. Such a study also should aim at the coordination of the interest and efforts of private, commercial and public agencies in the preparation of such materials.

6. On the matter of teacher exchanges between Latin America and the United States, it is recommended that such exchanges include elementary and secondary school teachers





and administrators, chosen with regard to their ability both to represent their own culture and to appreciate sympathetically the culture of Latin America. This type of teacher exchange should aim especially to provide opportunities for teachers preparing to teach Spanish, Portuguese or French and to teach courses on Latin American civilization in the schools of the United States. Contact between organizations of teachers and administrators in the United States and Latin America are highly desirable for the purpose of establishing friendly intercourse based on common interests. It is also recommended that the diplomatic missions of the American republics include cultural attachés whose duty it would be to aid all those interested in inter-American cultural exchange in general and in education in particular.

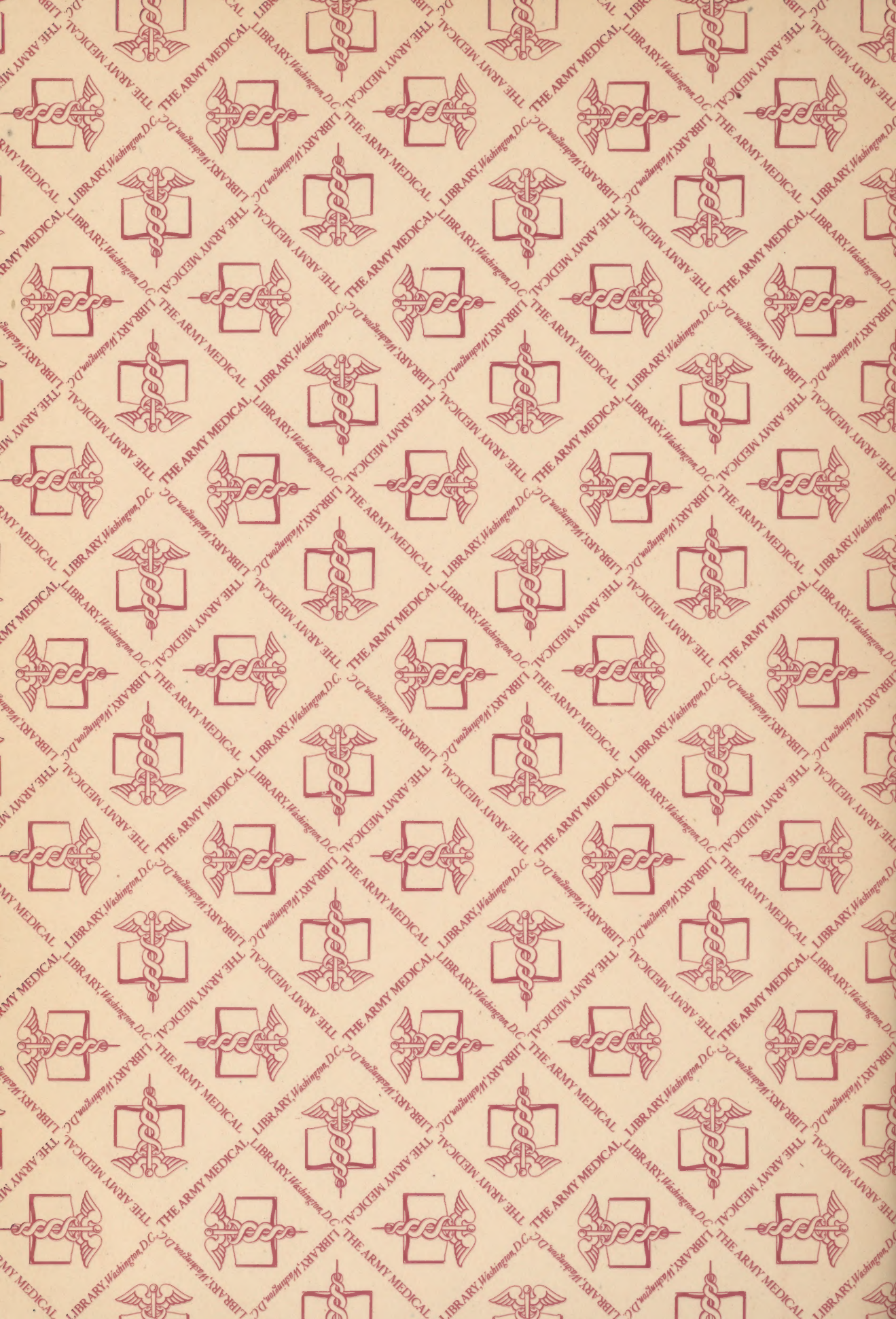
7. Group VI calls the attention of the Conference to the fact that by unanimous action it has created a national committee which will continue the work of fostering interest in Latin American studies.

EDITH E. PENCE  
Rapporteur

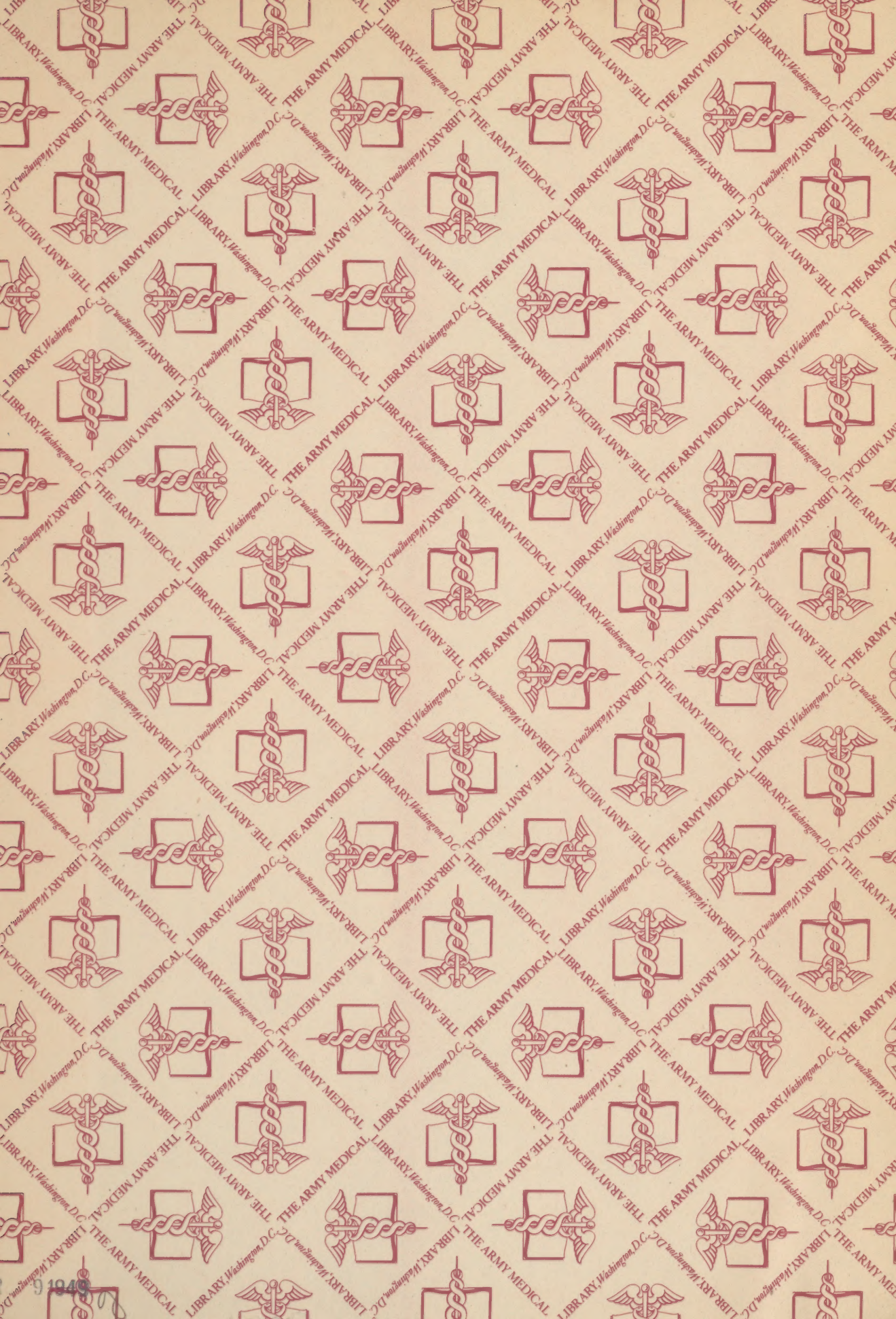














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